

October 8, 2013

Keith Wallace, Project Manager
California Department of Water Resources
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management
Financial Assistance Branch
Post Office Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Dear Mr. Wallace:

Please accept the following comments regarding the Round 2 Draft Funding Recommendations for the P84 IRWM Implementation Grant on behalf of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM partnership:

1. The partnership requests a rescore of our current Round 2 Implementation application due to comments made in the DWR review that we believe are incorrect.
2. We oppose the decision by DWR to reallocate funds from our funding area (Lahontan) in order to fund applications and projects in other funding areas. We believe this causes an unfair competitive evaluation of grant applications from a statewide perspective, as opposed to an evaluation of applications within our own funding region. We understand that you will still fund the entire allocation to Lahontan during Round 3 of the IRWM Implementation grant process, however, while meeting the grant application requirements over 1000 pages for this current funding round were submitted, representing over 2500 volunteer resource hours for our partner agencies. In addition, the projects submitted require timely funding for implementation. This effort was generated with the understanding that our funding region had \$3.9 Million available.
3. We request that DWR provide more transparency regarding the evaluation of grant proposals and funding decisions, especially when those decisions contradict the information provided in the Proposal Solicitation Package.

We support your efforts to provide a fair, impartial and balanced allocation of the P84 IRWM funding, and thank you for the past funding our partnership has received under this program. We look forward to working with you to resolve these, and future, issues.

On behalf of the Tahoe Sierra IRWM:

Lynn Nolan, South Tahoe Public Utility District (Lead Agency)